UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,982,844 B2
DATED : January 3, 2006
INVENTOR(S) : Charles T. Rettner and Barry C. Stipe

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 2,
Lines 9-10, replace "a magnetic grain" with -- an optical spot --.

Column 5,
Line 19, replace "separation" with -- spacing --.

Column 9,
Line 36, replace "region of the" with -- region's --.
Line 53, after "208" insert -- and --.

Column 10,
Lines 64 and 67, replace "step" with -- set of steps --.

Column 12,
Lines 6 and 7, replace "holes" with -- slits --.
Line 22, delete "a".

Column 13,
Lines 1 and 3-4, replace "nanometers" with -- nanometer --.
Line 5, replace "0.1" with -- 0.01 --.
Line 10, before "magnetic" insert -- a --.
Line 35, replace "tat" with -- that --.

Column 15,
Line 14, replace "end" with -- and --.

Column 16,
Line 17, replace "en" with -- an --.

Column 18,
Line 5, replace "feting" with -- facing --.

Column 3,
Line 2, add the following paragraph:

-- One embodiment of the invention is an apparatus for facilitating the recording of data. The apparatus includes an optical source and a metallic structure that receives optical radiation from the optical source. The metallic structure includes an emission region from which optical output is emitted, as well as an array of features that couple the radiation to at least one surface plasmon mode of the structure to increase the emitted optical output from the emission region beyond what the emitted optical output from the emission region would be in the absence

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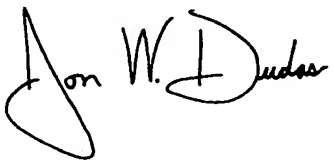
Column 3 (cont'd),
of the features. The emitted optical output includes a near-field portion that extends from the emission region out to a distance less than the average wavelength of the emitted optical output (e.g., the intensity weighted average wavelength). The apparatus further includes at least one element secured to the metallic structure, with this element generating magnetic fields for writing data in a data recording medium located within the near-field portion. A preferred apparatus further includes a platform (e.g., slider having an air bearing surface) to which the structure and the (at least one) element are secured, in which the platform is configured to be moved relative to a data recording medium while the separation between the emission region and a surface of the data recording medium is kept to less than the average wavelength. The emission region may be advantageously located at an output face of the laser and may include dielectric material. The optical source may include an optical waveguide coupled to a source of optical radiation. Optical radiation from the optical source preferably has a full width half maximum (FWHM) of less than about 0.1 times the average wavelength of the optical radiation. The optical radiation preferably also includes a frequency that matches a resonant frequency of the structure. The spacing between the features in the metal structure is chosen to enhance the optical output from the emission region from at least one predetermined wavelength, and in one embodiment, the structure may include two features. The (at least one) element that generates magnetic fields may include at least one poling piece for applying a magnetic field in a portion of a storage medium, as the emitted optical output from the emission region heats this portion. --.

Signed and Sealed this

Thirteenth Day of June, 2006



JON W. DUDAS
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office